

# NEWS RELEASE



## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture - Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service  
100 Centennial Mall North Suite 298 - Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 - Phone: (402) 437-5541

---

Contact: Mark Harris (402) 437-5541

E-mail: [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov)

Web: [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/)

### NEBRASKA 2004 CORN AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTION SECOND HIGHEST

LINCOLN, Neb., August 12, 2004 -- Based on August 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2004 **corn** crop is forecast at 1.22 billion bushels, 9 percent above 2003, and the second highest of record, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Acreage to be harvested for grain remained unchanged at 7.9 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at a record 155 bushels per acre, 9 bushels above last year's crop and 8 bushels above the previous high set in 2001. "Early planting and adequate rainfall across most of Nebraska's dryland growing areas combined with mild temperatures have boosted crop prospects well above last year," said Mark Harris director of Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Harris also noted, "Corn, oats and hay yields are all forecast at record high levels."

**Soybean** production in Nebraska is forecast at 216 million bushels, 20 percent above last year and second highest on record behind 2001. Acres for harvest, at 4.7 million, are second highest on record. Yield is forecast at 46 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from 2003 and second highest on record behind 1994.

Nebraska's 2004 **winter wheat** crop is forecast at 57.6 million bushels, unchanged from last month's forecast, but 31 percent below last year's crop. Acreage for grain, at 1.8 million, is unchanged from last month. Average yield is forecast at 32 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month, but 14 bushels below last year.

**Sorghum** yield is forecast at 85 bushels per acre, up 23 bushels from last year. Production is forecast at 35.7 million bushels. **Dry edible bean** production, at 1.93 million cwt., is down 39 percent from last year. **Oat** yield is forecast at a record high 77 bushels per acre. Production forecast is at 3.85 million bushels, down 41% from 2003 due to fewer acres. **Sugarbeet** production of 960 thousand tons is up 11 percent from 2003. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast at 4.75 million tons, down 9 percent from last year, and **all other hay** production is down 2 percent. Fewer acres expected to be harvested more than offset record high yields for alfalfa and all other hay.

Access the National publication for this release at:  
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2004/crop0804.pdf>